



GREATER WASHINGTON

Board of Trade

Growing Business. Building Community.

April 14, 2005

The Honorable Kevin Martin
Chairman, Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Re: Sprint Corp. and Nextel Communications Merger, WT Docket No 05-63

Dear Chairman Martin:

I write today to express the Greater Washington Board of Trade's enthusiastic support for the proposed merger of Sprint and Nextel.

Our 1,200 member companies employ 40 percent of the private-sector workforce in the Greater Washington, DC area. We are confident that a Sprint Nextel merger will improve telecommunications service and advance business opportunities for our stakeholders as well as businesses and consumers nationwide.

Our mission is to promote economic development in the region and sponsor programs that advance this goal. For example, our Greater Washington Initiative encourages companies to locate or expand their businesses here. We were pleased when Nextel established its corporate headquarters in Reston, VA in 1996, and we remain satisfied with its positive impact on our region. Nextel has not only brought jobs and commerce to our region, but has also played an important civic role. With the executive headquarters for the merged entity of Sprint Nextel remaining in Reston, we look forward to continuing and strengthening our current partnership for the betterment of regional development.

We support this merger not only for the dividends it will bring to the local business community, but also because we believe that as a merged entity, Sprint Nextel will offer better scale and consumer choice to the business and individual customer base in the Greater Washington area.

Thank you for taking the time to review our position. Please do not hesitate to contact us with any questions.

Sincerely,

Robert Peck
President
Greater Washington Board of Trade

No. of Copies rec'd _____
List ABCDE

0